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ABSTRACT

A computer system having central processing unit, a ROM, an NVRAM, and other common computer components. A table of information is stored in the ROM. The information can relate to configuration data for boards installed in the computer or other types of information. Preferably, each entry in the ROM table includes a board identifier and corresponding text describing the board and/or configuration data for the board. An extension table is stored in the NVRAM which provides storage capacity for the same type of information in the ROM-based table. The NVRAM-based extension table preferably also includes storage for board identifiers and corresponding configuration information. When running a setup utility program, the utility preferably first checks the ROM-based board table to determine whether a matching entry is found for each board in the system. If a match is found, the corresponding configuration information is used to configure the system for use of the board. If a match is not found, the utility program then checks the NVRAM extension table for a matching entry. If a match is found, the corresponding configuration information is used. If no match is found in either table, a default setting is used.